

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): Network-unit for use in a telecommunication network and comprising

at least one input for receiving a signal comprising a first field which is directly analysable and a second field which is analysable after a processing,

a first analyser coupled to said at least one input for analysing first information originating from said first field,

a processor for performing said processing of second information originating from said second field, and

a second analyser coupled to said processor for analysing processed second information,

at least one output for sending a further signal to a further network-unit and comprising a third field which is directly analysable and a fourth field which is analysable after a processing in said further network-unit,

wherein said first analyser is coupled to said processor for, in dependence of an analysis result of said first information, selecting at least one output and switching at least a part of said signal to said selected output or performing said processing, with said first information comprising non-address information, and with said second information comprising address information defining further network-units;

wherein said first field comprises a quality field for indicating a quality, with said second field comprising an IP-address field for indicating an IP-address; and
wherein at least a part of said quality field is used for indicating a destination of said signal and a detection of this indication of said destination is said analysis result.

2. (original): Network-unit according to claim 1, wherein the network-unit further comprises

a first generator coupled to said at least one output for generating said third information, and

a second generator coupled to said at least one output for generating said fourth information.

3. (canceled).

4. (previously presented): Network-unit according to claim 1, wherein said processing corresponds with defragmentation, decompression, demultiplexing and/or table consultation.

5. (previously presented): Telecommunication network comprising several network-units, at least a first network-unit comprising

at least one input for receiving a signal comprising a first field which is directly analysable and a second field which is analysable after a processing,

a first analyser coupled to said at least one input for analysing first information originating from said first field,

a processor for performing said processing of second information originating from said second field, and

a second analyser coupled to said processor for analysing processed second information,
at least one output for sending a further signal to a second network-unit and comprising a
third field which is directly analysable and a fourth field which is analysable after a processing in
said second network-unit,

wherein said first analyser is coupled to said processor for, in dependence of an analysis
result of said first information, selecting at least one output and switching at least a part of said
signal to said selected output or performing said processing, with said first information
comprising non-address information, and with said second information comprising address
information defining said second network-unit.

6. (original): Telecommunication network according to claim 5, wherein the first
network-unit further comprises

a first generator coupled to said at least one output for generating said third information,
and

a second generator coupled to said at least one output for generating said fourth
information.

7. (currently amended): Method for dealing with signals and comprising the steps of
receiving a signal comprising a first field which is directly analysable and a second field
which is analysable after a processing,

analysing first information originating from said first field,

performing said processing of second information originating from said second field, and

analysing processed second information,

sending a further signal to a further network-unit and comprising a third field which is directly analysable and a fourth field which is analysable after a processing in said further network-unit,

wherein said method comprises the steps of, in dependence of an analysis result of said first information, selecting at least one output and switching at least a part of said signal to said selected output or performing said processing, with said first information comprising non-address information, and with said second information comprising address information defining further network-units;

wherein said first field comprises a quality field for indicating a quality, with said second field comprising an IP-address field for indicating an IP-address; and

wherein at least a part of said quality field is used for indicating a destination of said signal and a detection of this indication of said destination is said analysis result.

8. (original): Method according to claim 7, wherein the method comprises the steps of

generating said third information, and

generating said fourth information.

9. (canceled).

10. (previously presented): Method according to claim 7, wherein said processing corresponds with defragmentation, decompression, demultiplexing and/or table consultation.

11. (previously presented): The network-unit according to claim 1, wherein said first field comprises a layer 2 header and wherein said second field comprises a layer 3 header.

12. (previously presented): The network-unit according to claim 1, wherein said first field comprises a plurality of subfields, wherein one of the plurality of subfields comprises the first information.

13. (previously presented): The network-unit according to claim 1, wherein said first field is the first occurring field among a plurality of fields of a packet of the signal.

14. (previously presented): The network unit according to claim 1, wherein said first information comprises an indication of a relevance of the second information.

15. (previously presented): The network unit according to claim 1, wherein the further signal is an output signal of the network unit which is sent to a second network unit.